

Detailed Action
Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3, 5-19 are allowed over prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The art of record did not teach or suggest the claim taken as a whole and particular the limitation pertaining to the "Wherein the first input processing unit comprises means of cutting off the signal transmission in the case in which a coaxial cable is not connected to the coaxial output terminal of the second input processing unit"

With respect to independent claims 1,16, Georger et al disclose a self-terminating coaxial to unshielded twisted-pair cable passive CATV distribution panel where " The terminating means is designed to properly terminate the output signal when an unshielded twisted-pair cable is not connected to an output signal. The terminating means has impedance matched to the characteristic impedance of the unshielded twisted-pair cables, typically 100 ohms, col.3, and lines 19-24; the output signals are automatically terminated when the unshielded twisted-pair cable is detached, col.1, lines 66-67 and col.2, line 1". Wider et al disclose " the coaxial connector further includes a resistor connected to the rear contact. The resistor is effectively bypassed when the front and rear contacts of the contact assembly are engaged with one another. However, the resistor functions to terminate the signal transmission when the front and rear contacts of the contact assembly are not engaged, col.2, lines 46-67; the resistor will immediately and automatically function to terminate the signals generated by the transmitter. It is therefore unnecessary to shut off the transmitter or to utilize a separate coaxial connector with a resistor therein, col.3, lines 1-7". Decramer et al show in fig.2 a system for transforming coaxial cable to twisted wire and twisted wire to coaxial. Hennenhoefer et al show in fig.1 a system containing two processing units where the first one transforms a signal from a coaxial cable to twisted wire and the second one transforms signal from twisted wire to coaxial cable.

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But Georger in view of Wider further in view of Decramer and further in view of Hennenhoefer and any of cited references did not teach or suggest, alone or in combination the feature of "Wherein the first input processing unit comprises means of cutting off the signal transmission in the case in which a coaxial cable is not connected to the coaxial output terminal of the second input processing unit" as recited in combination with other features of independent claims 1 and 16.

The dependent claims 2-3, 5-15 and 17-19 are allowed because they further limit independent/parent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Georger et al (5950111) disclose a self-terminating coaxial to unshielded twisted-pair cable passive CATV distribution panel.

Wider et al (5775927) disclose a self-terminating coaxial connector.

Decramer et al (5633614) disclose unbalanced to balanced signal line coupling device.

Hennenhoefer et al (20020083475) disclose intelligent device system and method for distribution of digital signals on a wideband signal distribution system.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Duclos Saintcyr whose phone number is 571-270-3224. The examiner can normally reach on M-F 7:30-5:00 PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are not successful, his supervisor, Brian Pendleton, can be reached on 571-272-7527. The fax number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, dial 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Brian T. Pendleton/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2425

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